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In re Application of:

Thomson et al.

: Group Art Unit:1738

Serial No. 10/030,976

: Examiner: Not assigned

Filed: May 10, 2002

For: PRIMER CASING AND METHOD
OF CHARGING A BLASTHOLE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
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Sir:

Applicants hereby advise the Patent and Trademark Office of an error on the filing receipt for the above-referenced application (copy enclosed). The date of filing of the Australian priority document is incorrect. The filing date for AUSTRALIA PQ 1533 should read 07/09/1999. Also enclosed is a copy of the first page of the published PCT application from which the above-identified application was filed as a 371 with the date highlighted. Please issue a corrected filing receipt.

It is believed that the present request does not require the payment of any fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16-1.17. If this is incorrect, however, please charge any required fee to deposit account no. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally A. Sullivan
Sally A. Sullivan
Reg. No. 32,064

Greenlee, Winner and Sullivan, P.C.
5370 Manhattan Circle, Suite 201, Boulder, Colorado 80303
Ph: (303) 499-8080; FAX: (303) 499-8089
Email: winner@greenwin.com
Attorney docket no. 146-01
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Greenlee Winner and Sullivan
5370 Manhattan Circle
Suite 201
Boulder, CO 80303

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Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Steven Thomson, New South Wales, AUSTRALIA;
Anthony M Palmer, New South Wales, AUSTRALIA;
Andrew D Hunter, N S W, AUSTRALIA;

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Title

Primer casing and method of charging a blasthole

Preliminary Class

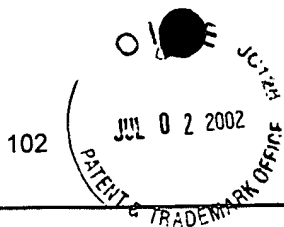
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Explosives Technical Centre, George Booth Drive, Kurri
Kurri, NSW 2327 (AU).

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(74) Agents: HUNTSMAN, Peter, H. et al.; 1 Little Collins
Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ORICA
AUSTRALIA PTY LTD [AU/AU]; 1 Nicholson Street,
Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).

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(72) Inventors; and

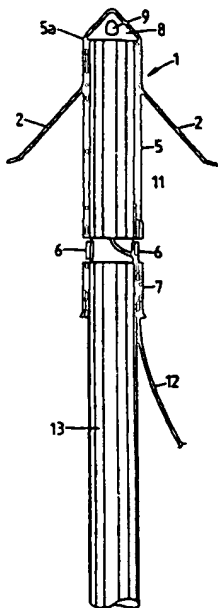
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): THOMSON,
Steven [AU/AU]; Orica Explosives Technical Centre,
George Booth Drive, Kurri Kurri, NSW 2327 (AU).
PALMER, Anthony, M. [AU/AU]; Orica Explosives
Technical Centre, George Booth Drive, Kurri Kurri, NSW
2327 (AU). HUNTER, Andrew, D. [AU/AU]; Orica

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ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
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(54) Title: PRIMER CASING AND METHOD OF CHARGING A BLASTHOLE



(57) Abstract: Primer casing (1) comprising sleeve portion (5) and leading portion (5a), wherein sleeve portion (5) includes tabs (6) to retain primer (11) and blasthole engagement means (2), and wherein leading portion (5a) comprises nose cone (8). Engagement means (2) comprises an array of rigid, multiple projections that are hinged and movable between a retracted position and a blast-hole engagement position. Explosive loading hose (13) locates within hose receiving sleeve (7) and can be used to push primer casing (1) into the desired location within the blasthole prior to filling the blasthole with bulk explosive. Methods of loading a blasthole comprising inserting primer (11) into primer casing (1) and positioning primer casing (1) at a desired location in a blasthole are also described and claimed.

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